FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

28 AUGUST 1984

Persian Gulf

Plane Hijacking — A passenger plane in flight between the UAE and Iran was hijacked on 28 August and forced to land in Iraq after being refused permission to land in Kuwait, KUNA reported. The plane was carrying 206 passengers and crew, the agency noted.

The spokesman for the Iranian Foreign Ministry, in an interview with a Tehran radio correspondent, condemned the hijacking as an "inhuman and overt act of air piracy," charging that "fighter planes of the Iraqi regime" forced the plane to land at a military airport in Iraq.

Attack on Tanker — The Panamanian tanker *Cleo I* was attacked near Qatar by "unidentified aircraft" believed to be Iranian, KUNA reported citing Abu Dhabi navigational sources. In citing the KUNA report, Baghdad radio stated that an Iranian aircraft had attacked the vessel, and recalled that at least four other tankers had been attacked by Iranian planes in the same area. On the other hand, Tehran radio recalled that a Cypriot tanker had recently been attacked by Iraqi planes. Concerning the latest incident, the radio cited news agency reports that a tanker was hit "by a missile" near Qatar.

Lebanon

Security Situation — The 6th Brigade ended a clash in Beirut between Progressive Socialist Party and Arab Socialist Union gunmen, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. Meanwhile, PSP forces and the Lebanese Army exchanged small-arms fire along the front lines in the Mountain area, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon noted. In Tripoli, "tension" prevailed along the cease-fire lines despite an agreement reached to deploy the Army to maintain security with the support of Syrian forces, according to Beirut radio.

In a government statement cited by SPA concerning the attack on the Saudi Consulate in Beirut on 24 August, Saudi Arabia expressed "pain and regret" that the Lebanese authorities did not prevent the "criminal, abominable act," even though they had prior knowledge about it.

Junblatt Interview — PSP leader Walid Junblatt stated in an interview with a U.S. publication cited by the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio that removing the Israelis from the south "means speaking to the Israelis, one way or another," and that Syria should sponsor such steps. He also reiterated that he will not attend Cabinet sessions in B'abda, although he might attend sessions if they were held in Bikfayya.

Libya-Syria

Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad returned to Damascus after meeting again in Banghazi with Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, Tripoli radio reported. Al-Asad arrived in Banghazi on 26 August following talks in Algeria, Damascus radio noted.

In a related development, Syrian Vice President Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah left for Tripoli at the head of a Ba'th Party and National Progressive Front delegation, which will participate in the 1 September revolution anniversary celebrations, Damascus television reported.

Algeria-SDAR-Mauritania

Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid received SDAR President Mohamed Abdelaziz and his delegation, Algiers radio reported. Bendjedid also received a Mauritanian envoy who delivered a personal message from Mauritanian President Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, the radio added.

Jordan-Palestinian Affairs

The joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee held its second session in Amman, Amman radio reported. The Jordanian delegation was led by Deputy Prime Minister Sulayman 'Arar, and the Palestinian side was led by Khalil al-Wazir, deputy commander of the Palestinian revolution forces. The committee discussed strengthening "steadfastness" in the "occupied land," the radio added.

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Soviets Reinforce Government Troops in Paktia

BK281240 Hong Kong AFP in English 1224 GMT 28 Aug 84

[Text] Islamabad, Aug 28 (AFP) — Thousands of Soviet troops have been sent to reinforce besieged Afghan Government troops in the Paktia Province bordering Pakistan, Western diplomatic sources here said today. They said from 12,000 to 14,000 Soviet troops had been sent to the region which constitutes the main passageway for Moslem rebels travelling from Pakistan to central and northern Afghanistan. Afghan observers in the Pakistani border town of Peshawar said the Soviets might attempt to shut down roads across the border, a move that would represent a serious setback to logistical operations by the resistance.

Western diplomats said the Soviet troops appeared for the moment to be stationed in the garrison at Gardez, the capital of Paktia Province, and had not yet been ordered to rescue Afghan Government troops surrounded by rebels in posts like Ali Khel, 15 kms (12 miles) from the border. Radio Kabul last week said the siege of Ali Khel had been broken and that members of the local tribe, the Mangals, had crossed over to the government's side. Sources close to the resistance confirmed that Mangals had been organized into militia to patrol the border.

Diplomats said the recent bombing by Afghan aviation of Pakistani territory was linked to the situation in Paktia. Western military sources said Afghanistan appeared to have been given the green light from Moscow to bomb resistance positions along and inside the Pakistan border. There have been no new reports by Pakistan of bombings since Kabul announced the end of the Ali Khel siege.

Diplomats also said that some 50 transport helicopters and helicopter gunships left Kabul Airport last week for Ghazni, the capital of Logar Province, some 80 kms (50 miles) west of Gardez. The reason for the transfer was not immediately clear. The diplomats reported a mortar attack around the Soviet Embassy in Kabul last week in which more than 20 people, including six Soviets, are believed to have died.

General Sadeqi Praises Paktia Tribesmen

LD241832 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] Greetings and best wishes from Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, were conveyed yesterday afternoon to the representatives, elders, and chiefs of the Mangal tribe by Brigadier General Mohammad Yasin Sadeqi, secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and head of the Army's political affairs.

Brig Gen Sadeqi attended the jerga of elders, chiefs and representatives of Khejo clan, Mangal tribe, which was held in Ahmad Khel District, Paktia Province, and spoke there about the policy of the party and government in relation to the country's tribes and nationalities and their role in safeguarding the country's borders.

At this jerga, a series of proposals were put forward by a number of the chiefs and representatives of Mangal tribe concerning their cooperation in safeguarding the security of their regions andwere appreciated by Brig Gen Sadeqi.

Haji Solayman Khel, representative of Khejo clan of Mangal tribe, then spoke and gave an assurance of the Mangal tribe's all-round cooperation in crushing the counterrevolutionary bands and further restoring security in their regions.

Brig Gen Yasin Sadeqi also met the officers and men of Paktia force in Ahmad Khel District and conveyed to them the best wishes and greetings of Babrak Karmal.

At this meeting, the head of the Army's political affairs expressed appreciation for the heroism and devotion of the officers and men in crushing the counterrevolutionary bands in Jaji and Ali Khel regions and highly praised the results of their combat activities in the restoration of security in Ali Khel and Ahmad Khel Districts of Paktia Province.

At the end of this meeting, commendation certificates and gifts were distributed among those officers and men who showed extra worthiness in combat activities.

According to another report, Brig Gen Yasin Sadeqi, this morning inspected military posts of the officers and men in Marai Gorge of Ahmad Khel District, Paktia Province, and spoke with them.

The head of the Army's political affairs at midday today also met the officers of the headquarters of Gardez garrison and recalled with appreciation their part in clearing Ahmad Khel and Ali Khel Districts of Paktia Province.

Karmal Congratulates Mongolia's Batmonh

LD270535 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0448 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] Kabul, August 26, BAKHTAR: Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of the RC [Revolutionary Council] of the DRA has sent a congratulatory message to Jambyn Batmonh on the occasion of his election as the general secretary of the CC of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party (MPRP), to Ulan Bator.

"You Dear Comrade Jambyn Batmonh, the message said, takes over this post at a time when the world situation, due to the war-mongering policy of imperialist circles, at the head the Reagan Administration, has been seriously deteriorated. Thus, it requires the common endeavours of all the noble inhabitants of our planet to defend the cause of world peace and security."

In the message pleasure has been expressed that the fraternal relations between the PDPA and the MPRP as well as between the two states based on the principles of proletarian internationalism, have grown to a high level of fraternal friendship.

BBC on Reports Guns Given Hijackers in Pakistan
BK270434 London BBC World Service in English 0015 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Mark Tully, Alex Brodie reports on the "Radio Newsreel" program]

[Text] The Pakistani Government has reacted quickly to deny reports that the hijackers of an Indian airliner were supplied with weapons when the plane landed in Pakistan. The suggestion came from passengers on the plane as they arrived back in Delhi after the hijackers surrendered in Dubai on Saturday. One of the passengers Mr Dominic Louis Buckley told the BBC Delhi correspondent, Mark Tully, what happened when the Sikh extremists first took over the airliner:

[Begin recording][Dominic Louis Buckley]At that stage they had (?these) and two home-made bombs — one hidden in a camera, the other one was an incendiary device made up of a medicine bottle with a wick sticking out of it.

[Mark Tully] Where did they get this revolver then which the people talk about?

[Buckley] That appeared only just as we were about to take off at Lahore. We presume, it came on board in Lahore.

[Mark Tully] Did they show you the revolver or what?

[Buckley]They brandished it just before takeoff, saying we've got a gun now, so this is serious.

[Mark Tully] Some of the other passengers have said that they feel that the hijackers had a rather friendly and perhaps almost close relationship with the security staff and others at Lahore Airport.

[Buckley] Very friendly indeed. There were smiles all the time and pats on the back, shaking of hands when we left.

[Tully] They actually shook the hands with the hijackers?

[Buckley] Yes, they did.

[Tully] What conclusion did you and other passengers draw from that then?

[Buckley] We were very very disappointed by the Pakistanis indeed. [end recording]

When news of what was being alleged in Delhi reached the Pakistan capital, Islamabad, an official statement was issued denying the suggestion. As Alex Brodie reports, officials also rejected the claim by the Indian ambassador that the authorities at Lahore Airport and Karachi Airport had been too soft with the hijackers.

[Begin Brodie recording] The reports that the gun was (?sent) on board at Lahore were not only baseless and absurd, but also mischievous, said an official spokesman. All that was sent into the plane at Lahore was water, he said. The plane was refueled and allowed to fly on only because of direct threat to the lives of the passengers. The Indian ambassador here, Mr K.D. Sharma, in an interview with REUTER news agency said he was utterly astonished when the plane was allowed to leave from Lahore and Karachi. He said some risks have to be taken in situations like this to deter others. He complained that he was isolated from decisionmaking. The Pakistani response to that was to say that Mr Sharma was invited to talk to the hijackers in Lahore and declined. He was accorded every possible facility, including a hot line to Delhi, said the spokesman, who also denied Mr Sharma's suggestion that Pakistan was in a hurry to get rid of the hijackers. We pleaded with them for about 11 hours at Lahore and over 5 hours at Karachi, he said. Pakistan's handling of the affair was guided by what he called paramount humanitarian concerns for the safety of innocent passengers and crew. [end recording]

Handling of Hijacking Criticized
OW271934 Hong Kong AFP in English 1908 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] New Delhi, AUG 27 (AFP) — Despite the Pakistani denial, India today at least insinuated that the Sikh hijackers of an airliner earlier had got the pistols with them after the plane landed at Lahore in that country. [sentence as received]

Civil Aviation Minister Khursheed Alam Khan said in a statement in Parliament that there was no sign of the Sikhs having had any firearms "until well after" the Boeing 737 took off from Lahore. But he still cautioned that no conclusion could be drawn as yet in the matter pending investigations.

India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE), where the plane was finally taken and released next day, had given no undertaking to the hijackers, the minister said.

He disclosed the Indian Foreign Office and its ambassador in Pakistan had taken up with the authorities there the question of hijackers taking into possession some weapons in Lahore Airport before taking off to Karachi. The plane had flown out to Dubai from Karachi.

Earlier, a Foreign Office spokesman told reporters that the government was investigating press reports that the firearms were given to the hijackers by Pakistani authorities. He refused to comment further. A Pakistani Government spokesman, quoted by Radio Pakistan this morning, denied the reports as "baseless and mischievous."

Mr Khan said, "On the basis of information so far available, there is no firm evidence of any weapons having been taken into the aircraft in contravention of our (Indian) regulations."

He also voiced India's disapproval of the way Pakistan dealt with the hijackers. Mr Khan said Pakistan allowed the hijacked plane to fly out in spite of repeated requests India made against them at various levels, including by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

He at the same time appreciated that the UAE authorities had handled the situation "with great firmness" and said Mrs Gandhi had conveyed her thanks to the UAE president "for the assistance so well rendered."

The hijackers — earlier press reports said there were a dozen of them — were still in custody in Dubai and "further action is the subject matter of very delicate negotiations," the minister said. Mr Khan said India and the UAE, though they were signatories to the international conventions on hijacking, (?had no coordination) treaty between them.

Aviation Minister Addresses Parliament

BK271647 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] Parliament was assured today that everything possible will be done to ensure the safety of our aircraft, crew, and passengers. The civil aviation minister, Mr Khursheed Alam Khan, who was making a statement in both the houses on the hijacking of the Indian Airlines Boeing, said that the hijackers displayed firearms only after the aircraft had been at the Lahore Airport. He said at this stage no definite conclusion can be drawn as to where the hijackers got the firearms.

The minister said that at Lahore Airport the hijackers put forward several demands, including payment of 5 lakh rupees to each hijacker, Pakistani citizenship for them, and transport with permission to go to the United States.

Mr Khan said India repeatedly requested the Pakistani authorities not to permit the Indian aircraft to leave Lahore. These requests were made not only at official level, but the home minister to General Arif. The prime minister also spoke to General Ziaul Haq and repeated the request that the Pakistani authorities should ensure the safety of passengers and the aircraft should not be allowed to leave. Despite this, the plane was allowed to go to Karachi from Lahore and subsequently permitted to take off from there.

The aircraft landed safely at Dubai. A team of technical officials was sent to Dubai where negotiations were conducted by the Dubai authorities resulting in the surrender of hijackers. Details are still coming in.

Reportage on Visit by SFRY President Djuranovic

Greeted by Gandhi, Singh

BK270942 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] The Yugoslav president, Mr Veselin Djuranovic, was given a warm welcome when he arrived in New Delhi this morning on a 3-day state visit. He was received at the airport by President Zail Singh and the prime minister, Mrs Gandhi. In their speeches at the airport, both the presidents reaffirmed their commitments to further strengthen the historic ties of friendship between the two countries and their endeavors in the cause of nonalignment.

In his welcome speech, Giani Zail Singh said the Yugoslav president's visit is a continuation of a long tradition of personal contacts between the leaders of the two nations. He said his visit will give a opportunity for discussion on bilateral and international matters.

President Djuranovic expressed the hope that the talks will further consolidate the solidarity between the peoples of the two countries. He will have two rounds of talks with the prime minister today and tomorrow. The president, Giani Zail Singh, is hosting a dinner tonight in honor of the visiting president.

Begins Talks With Gandhi

BK271629 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] The prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, and the visiting Yugoslav president, Mr Veselin Djuranovic, have expressed concern over increasing outside pressures on the Nonaligned Movement. At the first round of their talks in New Delhi today, President Djuranovic recalled the assessment made at last year's nonaligned summit in New Delhi about the efforts by various blocks for domination of the movement. He said stronger pressures are now being exercised on nonaligned countries. Mrs Gandhi shared his views and spelled out four type of pressures being put on the movement, namely political, economic, military, and psychological. She said as a result some smaller countries have had to take positions which they had themselves been opposing earlier. These issues will be discussed at the nonaligned coordinating bureau which is meeting at New York next month at the level of foreign ministers.

After a private meeting, Mrs Gandhi and President Djuranovic were joined by their delegations for detailed discussions on various international and bilateral matters. Mrs Gandhi expressed appreciation for Yugoslavia's support for her efforts and initiatives as chairperson of the Nonaligned Movement and critical world issues including the Iran-Iraq war and the West Asia developments. The prime minister said she has been in touch with the leaders of both the warring countries as their conflict is a matter of deep concern to the entire Nonaligned Movement. President Djuranovic appreciated that India is maintaining continuing of the Nonaligned Movement's policies despite all problems.

In the economic field, experts have done a meaningful job and the movement has maintained its vitality. All its activities are based on authentic nonaligned principles, he said.

In the bilateral field, both the sides expressed disappointment at the low level of their economic cooperation. They agreed that there is considerable scope for increasing it. Various proposals are under consideration and delegations of the two sides will be having separate meetings at which concrete ideas are expected to emerge.

Feted by Singh

BK280510 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 28 Aug 84

[Text] India and Yugoslavia have expressed concern at the worsening international situation caused by continuing confrontation between the two superpowers and the unabated nuclear arms race. Speaking at a banquet hosted by the president, Giani Zail Singh, in honor of the visiting Yugoslav president, Mr

Veselin Djuranovic, in New Delhi last night, the two leaders felt that there are many hotbeds of crises which are not being resolved and the situation is fraught with new conflicts. The two sides felt that a threat of a new global confrontation called for urgent measures to establish a new economic order between the developing and the developed countries. The two presidents called for strengthening the Nonaligned Movement whose voice, they said, is now listened to with respect even outside the movement. They also referred to the historic ties between India and Yugoslavia dating back to the Nehru-Tito days and agreed that an abiding friendship has been built on this historic basis. They stressed the need for further improving the economic and technological ties.

In his welcome address, Giani Zail Singh spoke about the increasing tensions in India's neighborhood and the growing outside military presence in the Indian Ocean region. Referring to the regional conflicts in which friendly nonaligned countries are involved, Giani Zail Singh repeated the call made at the seventh nonaligned conference to Iran and Iraq to end the war.

Expressing concern at the situation in southern Africa, the president said efforts are being made by some powers to impose an artificial solution to problems in Namibia and Lebanon. He called upon all the countries to respect the relevant resolutions of the United Nations to work for speedy solution.

In his reply, Mr Djuranovic said that the achievements by the two countries can be objectively used in our common endeavors.

Earlier during the first round of talks, the prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, and the Yugoslav president expressed concern over mounting pressures on the Nonaligned Movement. They spelt out four types of pressures being put on the movement, namely political, economic, military, and psychological. Mrs Gandhi said as a result some smaller countries have had to take positions which they had themselves been opposing earlier.

23 Arrested in Punjab; Sikh Convention Banned

BK280440 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 28 Aug 84

[Text] In Punjab, the security forces have apprehended 23 more suspects during their mopping-up operations during the past 2 days. Some arms and ammunition have also been recovered from them.

The Amritsar District authorities have decided to disallow the holding of the convention called by the Sikh priests. An official spokesman said in Chandigarh that the step has been taken in the interest of peace and public order. He said that the administration felt the convention is aimed at exciting communal feelings as it was evident from the languages used by the organizers.

Akali Dal Leaders Arrested

BK280832 Hong Kong AFP in English 0813 GMT 28 Aug 84

[Text] New Delhi, Aug 28 (AFP) — Police in troubled Punjab State today detained top officials of the Sikh Party Akali Dal in Jullundur District in an apparent bid by state authorities to prevent Sikhs from holding a world convention in Amritsar on Sunday.

The PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) news agency said that in a pre-dawn swoop, police arrested Kuldip Singh, president of the Jullundur District unit of the party, Sarup Singh, a member of the Sikh Temple Management Committee and Jarnail Singh of the District party unit.

Quoting police sources, PTI added that many Sikh leaders had gone underground for fear of arrest before the convention.

Earlier an official spokesman told newsmen in Chandigarh, Punjab's state capital, that the government had banned Sikhs from holding the meeting which was to be attended by between 300,000 and 400,000 delegates.

Delhi on Progress in Nuclear Power Generation

BK241702 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1340 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Commentary on "Harnessing Nuclear Energy for Development" by Biman Basu, science writer]

[Text] The latest annual report of the International Atomic Energy Agency released in Vienna last week forecasts a steady rise in global nuclear power generation in the coming years despite a slowdown in the construction of new plants in some countries. The report says that by the end of next year nuclear energy will provide 15 percent of world electricity as against less than 12 percent at the moment.

The actual percentages vary widely from country to country. France, for instance, generates 50 percent of its electricity using nuclear energy. Compared to the world figure, India's nuclear power generation program is modest. At the moment nuclear energy contributes less than 3 percent of the country's total electricity generation. The five nuclear plants now in operation generate a total of about 1,100 megawatts, but the picture is changing fast. Keeping with the world trend, the country has recently taken up an ambitious expansion plan which will raise India's nuclear generation capacity more than tenfold by the end of this century. India will then produce more than 10 percent of its electricity using nuclear energy.

India's experience in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy dates back to the midfifties when the country's first experimental reactor was commissioned at Trombay. The first nuclear power plant was set up at Tarapur in 1963. Since then four more power reactors have come up, and five more units are in different stages of construction. Under the new expansion plan 22 new nuclear power reactors are to be set up by the year 2000 AD. The total nuclear generation capacity will then go up to 10,000 megawatts.

A significant feature of India's nuclear power generation program over the years has been the development of indigenous capability in all aspects of nuclear power generation. The first reactor at Tarapur was purchased from the United States on a turnkey basis. The latest unit at Kalpakkam has an input content of less than 10 percent. In fact, Indian nuclear scientists and

technologists can now design, build, and run a nuclear plant without any outside help. The reactors currently in operation and under construction all use uranium as fuel. However, in view of India's limited reserves of uranium, the second phase mf reactors to be used in future will be of the breeder type which produces more fuel than it consumes.

The technology of fast breeder reactors is far more complex than that of the conventional reactors now in use. At present only a few countries, notably France, have the expertise in designing and operating breeder reactors. India is developing the technology of its own. The country's first prototype fast breeder test reactor at Kalpakkam has been entirely designed and fabricated by Indian scientists and engineers. The reactor is ready for commissioning by the year-end.

A significant development in this context has been the work of Indian scientists on an alternative fuel for the breeder reactor. Normally such reactors use enriched uranium. For the Indian breeder, reactor fuel was originally to be supplied by France, but the deal had to be scrapped because of prohibitive price quoted by the suppliers. In their efforts to find a suitable alternative, Indian scientists have now come up with fuel based on plutonium-uranium-carbide which will be used in the prototype breeder reactor at Kalpakkam.

Another important achievement in recent months has been the successful operation of a small test reactor using uranium-233 as fuel at the Bhaba Atomic Research Center. This is the only reactor in the world running on uranium-233, which is obtained from thorium found abundantly in the beach sand of Kerala. The third generation of India's nuclear plants will use thorium as fuel of which the country has vast reserves.

India's achievements in the field of nuclear power generation have not been without problems. Unfulfilled commitments for the supply of fuel, heavy water, and spare parts have greatly hampered progress, but we have gone ahead undeterred. Today India is the only developing country which has the complete infrastructure for a viable nuclear power program. It has the capability not only of mining, extracting, and fabricating fuel for nuclear reactors but also of designing, building, and operating nuclear power reactors besides facilities for heavy water production, reprocessing of used fuel, and waste management. Most important of all, Indian industry is now in a position to support a rapid expansion of the country's nuclear power program.

Foreign Office Denies Guns Supplied to Hijackers

BK261545 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] A Foreign Office spokesman in Islamabad has described as baseless and misleading the Indian news agency UNITED NEWS OF INDIA report which alleges that the hijackers of the Indian plane were supplied in Lahore with a packet containing pistols. The spokesman said the report is not only baseless and misleading but mischievous as well. The plane was hijacked before it landed at Lahore airport; not after arrival in Lahore. It was reported that the hijackers had knives and one or more bombs. However, it was not known if they also had pistols.

The Foreign Office spokesman said that security forces had surrounded the plane after it landed at Lahore airport. The airport authorities only sent water to the plane. The plane was refueled only when the hijackers issued strong threats about killing passengers. As in the last incident of a hijacked Indian plane [on 5 July], the Pakistani authorities in a spirit of humanitarian sympathy for the security of passengers and crew granted permission for the plane which was hijacked on Friday to land. The decision to refuel the plane and let it take off from Lahore airport was also taken in the same spirit.

The spokesman said that the Government of Pakistan is fully satisfied that its decisions proved correct, and all the passengers and crew members were finally released and the plane was also undamaged.

Three Indian Suggestions Detailed

BK271729 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] An official spokesman said in Islamabad tonight that the Indian Government made three suggestions to the Pakistan Government in connection with the hijacking of the Indian Airlines plane on the 24th and the 25th of this month. Briefing newsmen, he said the first suggestion was that the Pakistan Government should not provide fuel and that the plane should not be permitted to leave. Secondly, it should be stormed and the hijackers overpowered by force. Thirdly, the Indian Government suggested that the Pakistan Government should offer to the hijackers safe conduct to the United States, but that they extend this offer on their behalf and not on behalf of the Indian Government.

The spokesman said as far as the first two suggestions were concerned, the Pakistan Government acted in a manner appropriate to the situation. Pakistan refused refueling and obstructed the runway, but as a result of persistent threats by the hijackers the plane was refueled and circumstances did not permit the storming of the plane, although necessary arrangements had been made, as this would have put the lives of the passengers and the crew in jeopardy. As for the suggestion about the safe conduct to the hijackers was concerned, the Pakistan Government was not in a position to guarantee safe conduct to the United States and we suggested to the Indian Government that it should approach the United States in this behalf.

When pressed to comment why the Indian ambassador in Pakistan could not avail the opportunity of talking to the hijackers through the control tower, while their envoy in Dubai readily joined the negotiations, the spokesman said it was questionable. He said all the facilities including a hot line were made available to the Indian ambassador, while the Pakistan Government had also permitted an Indian experts team to arrive at Lahore. The team did not land in Lahore but reached Karachi shortly after the Indian plane had flown out. The team later left for Dubai.

Further Clarification on Hijacking

BK280414 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 28 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Referring to the allegations that a pistol or revolver was delivered to the hijackers at the Lahore airport, the spokesman pointed out that the statements made by a female passenger and the director general of the Indian Institute of Strategic Studies, Subramanyam, are based on their own inferences. It was also stated that the hijackers had threatened to kill the passengers one by one if the plane was not refueled. Therefore, how was it possible to kill passengers one by one with a bomb or gasoline bomb? The hijackers admitted in front of our negotiating team that they were able to take pistols on board the plane by bribing a security man at Chandigarh.

The spokesman said the Government of Pakistan had expressed its feelings of satisfaction at the safe return to India of all the passengers and crew of the hijacked plane. Pakistan did its best to save the lives of the innocent passengers, and in spite of this it is being asked to prove its innocence.

The spokesman hoped that this story would die its own death and everyone concerned would come to understand that the Pakistani authorities could not even have thought about resorting to such action.

The spokesman said an explanation had been given to the Government of India regarding the suspension of hearing the cases against the Indian plane hijackers. The Indian Government was also informed of the fact that the hijackers would make statements that would worsen the situation and the Government of India would blame [Pakistan] as a result. However, the spokesman said, the Indian government did not accept that fact. The Government of Pakistan is considering dates to begin hearing cases against the persons involved in hijacking of Indian planes in 1981 and 1984. The investigations in connection with the hijacking of the Indian plane in 1981 have been completed, while investigations of other hijacking incidents are continuing.

The *KHALEEJ TIMES* has published an apology from its owners for publishing statements of two passengers of the hijacked Indian plane about supplying the hijackers a pistol at the Lahore airport. The paper wrote that the statement had been proven wrong.

Pakistan Called Propaganda Victim

OW271952 Hong Kong AFP in English
1915 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Islamabad, Aug 27 (AFP) The Indian press early today quoted the plane's captain, V.K. Mehta, as saying the seven hijackers were armed only with knives when they commandeered the Boeing 737 over India, and began brandishing a pistol after the plane took off from Lahore en route to Dubai. Two British passengers, Mr and Mrs Dominic Barkley, were quoted as saying a Pakistani officer gave the hijackers a parcel at Lahore airport. The Indian Foreign Office said later in the day it was investigating the allegations.

A government spokesman here said Pakistan had been "the victim of a terrible campaign of propaganda, pilloried by the media, and forced to prove its innocence." He said he hoped the hijacking was not the result of an Indian plan to discredit Pakistan.

President Greets Ceausescu on National Day

BK230750 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu
0500 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Text] President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq has given a message of felicitations to Nicolae Ceausescu, the president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, on the occasion of their national day. In his message, the president expressed the confidence that the cordial and friendly relations and cooperation between Romania and Pakistan will continue to grow and will be further enhanced in the years to come for the mutual benefit of the two countries peoples.

Defense Minister on Neighborly Ties, Afghan Issue

BK240802 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT
24 Aug 84

[Text] Defense Minister Mir Ali Ahmad Khan Talpur has reiterated that Pakistan is determined to establish friendly relations with neighboring countries and resolve the Afghanistan problem politically. Speaking on the "Meet the Press" program organized by the Rawalpindi union of journalists yesterday evening, the federal minister said the government is fully aware of the country's defense requirements and will not allow anyone to interfere in its internal affairs.

Asked about the continued violation of Pakistan's airspace by Karmal administration aircraft, the defense minister said Pakistan has been continuously patient and has exercised restraint in in this regard. He emphasized that the people of Pakistan do not believe in aggression and will not allow aggression against them.

Yaqub Khan Confers With UN Envoy in Geneva

BK280342 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] At the indirect talks on Afghanistan in Geneva today, Pakistan reaffirmed its principled stand aimed at seeking a comprehensive political settlement of the problem. It emphasized the importance (?applying) an integrated approach to the draft package of the settlement under consideration instead of a detached approach toward four essential elements contained in the package.

Putting across Pakistan's standpoint to Mr Diego Cordovez, the personal representative of the UN secretary general on Afghanistan, the Pakistani foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, said his country also wanted that there should be a clearly defined relationship on the part of the Kabul delegation with regard to the four essential elements. Pakistan again emphasized for a timeframe for the withdrawal of Soviet troops and the voluntary return of Afghan refugees to their homes. It has also been stressed by the Pakistani side that the evolution of a mechanism of consulting Afghan refugees was also imperative before a settlement was arrived at. Pakistan's stand is that this exercise should be done by the United Nations, though Pakistan will be willing to extend necessary logistic support to the United Nations in this process. Pakistan has stated that unless the Afghan refugees give their approval to the settlement arrived at during the indirect talks, the implementation of the agreed settlement cannot take place.

Before the pre-lunch session of the talks ended, Mr Cordovez had conveyed Pakistan's viewpoint about an integrated approach to the package to the Kabul delegation. When the talks adjourned for lunch, the two sides had spent about 3 and 1/2 hours in the separate rooms under the new format described as proximity talks. The Kabul side was led by Mr Shah Mohammad Dost.

Indian Press Report on Chinese Bases Denied

BK280823 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu
0800 GMT 28 Aug 84

[Text] An official spokesman in Islamabad has described as totally incorrect the Indian press report that Chinese forces have set up camps in Pakistan's northern areas and that Pakistan intends to allow China to establish an Air Force base in Gilgit and a naval base in Karachi. The spokesman told newsmen in Islamabad that the Indian press reports are totally baseless and misleading.

Hijacked Plane Taken to Iraq in 'Piracy' Act

LD281120 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1049 GMT 28 Aug 84

[Text] In an overt act of air piracy, Saddam Husayn's regime took an Iranian passenger airbus to Iraq, using two of its fighter planes.

According to an IRNA report, an airbus of the Islamic Republic Airlines, flight No 4260, had gone to Shiraz from Dubai this morning. After some passengers had disembarked and others embarked, it left Shiraz for Tehran at 0710 with 195 passengers and 11 crew members. It was hijacked by an unknown group and rerouted to Kuwaiti airspace.

Though the plane was short of fuel and it needed to land, and in spite of the pilot's demand to land at Kuwait airport, the Kuwaiti authorities declared the airport closed to the plane.

According to the same report, while the hijacked plane was in flight in Kuwaiti airspace, two aggressor Iraqi fighter planes, in accordance with a preset plan, entered Kuwaiti airspace and appeared near the Iranian plane and foced the plane to fly to Iraq with 206 on board. The hijacked plane landed in an airport in Baghdad at 0930.

It should be pointed out that during the recent session of the foreign ministers of seven Arab countries in Baghdad, it was decided that Iran should be put under more pressure to force her to yield and accept Iraq's conditions for talks.

According to the report, the Islamic Republic Airlines announced that all the passengers and crew of the hijacked plane are well.

Foreign Ministry Spokesman Comments

LD281221 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1117 GMT 28 Aug 84

[Text] In connection with the hijacking of a passenger plane of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Kuwaiti airspace, our correspondent interviewed the spokesman of the Foreign Ministry about this act of air piracy.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman said: [announcer read] A passenger plane of the Islamic Republic Airlines, enroute from Dubayy to Tehran, was hijacked at 0730 today, with 206 on board, and taken toward Kuwait.

Despite the repeated insistence of the pilot and the consent of the Islamic Republic authorities for the plane to land in Kuwait, the Kuwaiti authorities unfortunately closed the airport runway to the plane, and informed the hijackers that Baghdad airport was open to them. Meanwhile, a number of fighter planes of the Iraqi regime appeared near the said plane. Forced by Iraqi fighter planes, the plane was directed from Kuwait to Iraq and was forced to land in a military airport in Iraq.

Regarding this inhuman act and overt act of air piracy, the Foreign Ministry spokesman said: This is not the first time that internal counterrevolution, with the help of world arrogance, with the vain thought of discrediting the Islamic Republic, has resorted to such an act.

He added: Based on the available information, this is the first time in the history of world aviation that a passenger plane has been hijacked with the help of and with the pressure exerted by fighter planes of a country and forced to land. No doubt such acts can only be perpetrated by criminal regimes such as Saddam Husayn's,which do not respect, and never have respected, international and humanitarian standards.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman announced: While condemning this inhuman act, we hold the Iraqi regime responsible for the lives of the passengers and crew of the plane. We decisively request the safe return of the plane and all on board. We also ask the international community, especially the United Nations, the ICAO [International Civil Aeronautical Organization] and the IATO [International Air Transport Association] to do their duty concerning this act of air piracy, which has been committed by a regime.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,832

LD271743 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran in its Communique No 1,832 while expressing its condolences on the occasion of the anniversary of the martyrdom of the ninth luminous star in the sky of imamate, his holiness Imam Omhammad Taqi — peace be upon him — reports on the situation on the fronts of the imposed war as follows:

During the past 24 hours the war between the fighters of Islam and the enemy in the Piranshah, Marivan, and Panjwin operational zones continued in exchanges of artillery and heavy weapons' fire. As the result of retaliatory fire of our forces, at least 11 light and heavy weapons' bunkers of the Iraqi forces, as well as one antiaircraft gun and 1 mortar were destroyed, while 11 enemy forces were killed or wounded. On the western fronts, while defending the area under their protection, our forces sent out patrol groups and set up observation posts, thus bringing enemy movements and activities under their surveillance and control. Our forces destroyed three observation posts and one vehicle of the forces of Saddam Husayn and killed some of their personnel with retaliatory fire. In Nahr-e 'Anbar region, one enemy patrol group attempted to infiltrate the defense position of our forces until being halted by the fire of the forces of Islam.

In the Arvand Rud region, while silencing enemy fire, our forces disrupted their supply activities, destroyed eight weapons bunkers and observation posts and one of their loaders, and killed or wounded a number of their personnel.

Khomeyni Receives Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Others

LD271324 Tehran IRNA in English 1240 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] Tehran, Aug 27 IRNA — The Majlis speaker and Imam Khomeyni's representative at the Supreme Defence Council,

Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, met and conferred with the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran Monday morning.

In another development Monday, families of martyrs and POW's and relatives of those missing in action from some parts of the country as well as the family of martyr Araqi visited the imam in Jamaran Mosque here.

In this meeting, Imam Khomeyni's representative and head of the Martyrs Foundation Mahdi Karrubi praised devotion of martyrs, POW's, the missing in action and their families, particularly martyr Araqi, thanking them on behalf of the imam.

At the end, Imam Khomeyni responded to the enthusiasm of the visitors.

Mahdi Araqi was one of the imam's close aides, who was martyred along with his son, Hessam, by the terrorist Forqan group in Tehran five years ago.

Prime Minister Views Administrative Causes Act

LD242109 Tehran IRNA in English 1848 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 24, IRNA — Prime Minister Musavi said to a group of staffers in charge of seeing into administrative violations here Thursday that no responsible public official has the right to tolerate or ignore the commission or omission of any act by any person which might harm the reputation of the Islamic Revolution and the Islamic Republic.

Musavi, who was commenting on a new revised administrative causes act, said the people in charge of executing the act have a commitment to try to improve the administrative system in Iran and "fight the termites whose very existence serve to corrupt our administrative system."

The prime minister referred to a recent instance of corruption incriminating some employees at the Heavy Industries Ministry of Iran and cautioned that a tolerance of apparently negligible violations among Iran's public officials would serve to raise questions in and outside of the country about the fundamental ground work of the Islamic Government. He also added that necessary measures have already been taken jointly with the judiciary branch for establishing benches specifically for hearing administrative cases. Musavi expressed hope that the administrative disciplinary courts would adopt universal procedures and criteria throughout the country.

Commerce Minister Issues Statement on Guidelines

LD272045 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] Following the important speech of the leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mr Hasan Abedi Ja'fari the minister of commerce, issued a statement. The statement says: The wise guidelines given by the imam to clarify the direction and to delineate economic and trade policies of the Islamic Republic of Iran are gratefully received. We believe that only compete and careful implementation of the imam's guidelines can safeguard the economic order of the country and ensure the comfort of the deprived. On this basis, the Ministry of Commerce, as part of the overall economic fabric of the Islamic Republic of Iran, feels duty-bound to use all its effort to direct the commercial plans of the country in such a way to fulfill the guidelines of the great imam, in cooperation with other economic and trade organs of the country including the governmental, bazaar and committed tradesmen. As part of a government which is the servant of the deprived, the Ministry of Commerce will take decisive measures to increase the participation by the bazaar and by committed and faithful commercial tradesmen, under the necessary supervision and control, to continue the good work of servants of the nation from this strata of society. Obviously, considering the imam's speech, and as emphasized by Brother Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, the prime minister, the Ministry of Commerce will elaborate on its future plans and on details of its past work for the information of the martyr-nurturing and alert people.

Voice and Vision Director Implements Guidelines

LD272335 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] In implementation of the emphatic guidelines by the imam of the nation about reporting the activities of the serving government, and following the circular dated 4.6.63 [26 August 84], issued by the esteemed prime minister of the government of the deprived people and addressed to executive organizations, regarding the exact and regular reporting of the activities of the executive organizations of the country, Mr. Mohammad Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the executive director of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran, with the approval of the supervisory council, issued a directive to officials of various departments of this organization.

This directive has emphasized that in addition to the present daily, weekly, and periodic programs which report the activities of the executive officials of the country and which demonstrate the creativity and flowering of the talents of the committed youths, and which express the expectations of the deprived people of the serving government, a special regular and continuous weekly program has been planned for the Voice and Vision, to be implemented with the cooperation and assistance of the executive officials of the country, to provide regular and continuous reports on the activities of the serving government and the country's executive organizations.

Economic Council Sets Government Policies

LD251813 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] This evening the Economic Council had a session, which was chaired by Mr Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, the prime minister. At this session the circular on the country's budget for the year 1364 [21 March 1985], which was written and compiled by the Plan and Budget Organization on the basis of the opinions of the members of the Economic Council, was reviewed. The government's economic policies for the year 1364 were then set, giving

due consideration to economic indices and the need to control inflation, protecting and securing the continuation of production, and insuring full employment, the government's economic policies for the year 1364 were set. Among the main trends in the budget for the year 1364 are a reluctance to increase revenue from oil exports in order to meet current and development expenses, the need to increase non-oil income, and the need to reduce the government's reliance on loans from the Central Bank of the Islamic Republic.

At this session it was also decided that in implementation of Majlis' legislation requiring the submission of the budget by 5 Azar [26 November], all executive organizations should submit their proposed budgets to the Plan and Budget Organization by 21 Mehr [13 October] at the latest. Also, the Economic Council decided that the Plan and Budget Organization should hold a seminar in order to clarify and elaborate on the points raised in the circular for the colleagues in governmental executive departments.

Economic Protocol Signed With Czechoslovak Delegation

Minister Banki Interviewed

LD241309 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Excerpt] According to our correspondent, at the end of negotiations between the Czechoslovak economic delegation and Iran's economic officials, the two sides signed a protocol on economic cooperation last night. This protocol, which outlines the framework of economic and industrial exchanges between the two countries, was signed by the Czechoslovak minister of foreign trade and by Dr Banki, minister in charge of the Plan and Budget Organization. Our correspondent interviewed Dr Banki after the signing of the protocol. The interview follows:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] Dr Banki, would you please elaborate on the result of the 4-day visit of the Czechoslovakdelegation to Iran, and could you please tell us about the grounds for cooperation between the two countries?

[Banki] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Greetings to our great nation and greetings to the imam of the nation. Our relations with Czechoslovakia go back many years. There was a short interruption due to the revolution, which was natural. After the revolution, and because of our needs, our relations have progressed very well. Figures show that our exports to Czechoslovakia totalled $78 million in 1981, and increased to $137 million 1982 and 1983. Of course, only $8-10 million of that $137 million is non-oil. We are trying to increase this. Figures for 1984 are not available yet, but they will show an increase as well. We have decided in this agreement to increase our exports in 1985 to twice the present rate, and we have agreed to increase our non-oil exports as well. We import industrial goods from Czechoslovakia, ready-made industrial goods and industrial plants.

Several of our sugar mills and cement works, such as Tehran's Rey cement works, were built with Czechoslovak cooperation. Dezful's sugar mill and a number of chemical factories in Esfahan, which we inspected yesterday, are being built with cooperation from Czechoslovakia. Basically, the construction of many of our industrial factories has been taken over by them. They have put forward proposals which will be studied by our ministers. Esfahan's Nabard steel mill will be contracted by the Czechs. After their meeting with the Ministry of Mines and Metals, we foresee more proposals coming from them.

Generally, what I can tell you and our great nation is that after our negotiations we feel that the Islamic Republic's presence in international trade exchange is stronger than before. We have made considerable progress compared with 2 years ago. This is apparent in our negotiations with Mr Urban then and now and has resulted from the efforts of our crusaders and combatants [as heard]. We hope that with the support of our great nation and the backing of our combatants we will be able to carry out our undertakings to the people and implement the agreement which we consider beneficial.

[Correspondent] What are the main elements of this protocol and, in your opinion, how can this protocol be helpful in opening the way toward expansion of industrial and economic relations between the two countries?

[Banki] As I mentioned, our exports will be increased to twice the present rate. Specifically, our oil export — which was 700,000 tons in 1983 — will be increased to 1 million tons in 1984. We decided that the volume of exchanges should be increased, meaning that we in turn should import more from them. They have proposed that we could buy some of our imports on a delayed basis, which in itself is indicative of the credit of the Islamic Republic. The machinery and tools which we import from that country make up 55 percent of our imports. This shows the direction of growth and health of our foreign trade.

[Correspondent] What position does Czechoslovakia occupy among countries of the world which have industrial, trade and commercial relations?

[Banki] I do not remember the position in relations to other countries, but in the countries of the Eastern Bloc, Czechoslovakia is first, according to our facts and figures. And it is because of that country's long industrial record that we are able to enlist their help. [end recording]

Agreement Reached on Oil

LD241548 Tehran IRNA in English 1538 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 24, IRNA — Czechoslovakia will purchase more oil from the Islamic Republic in future, it was stressed in a letter of understanding signed between Iran and Czechoslovakia Thursday. The letter was signed by minister of state and head of the plan and budget organisation, Mohammad Taqi Banki, on behalf of the Islamic Republic and Czech minister of foreign trade, Bohumil Urban, on behalf of Czechoslovakia.

According to the letter of understanding, the two countries will cooperate in industrial and agricultural fields, including areas of industries, sugar processing, tyre manufacturing, ceramic china and chemical industries as well as turbine power stations, mines

and metals and cement factories. The letter of understanding also forecast that Iranian oil export to Czechoslovakia would possibly exceed one million tons in the next year.

Also Iran's non-oil exports including zinc and concentrated lead would be increased.

Bohumil Urban told IRNA that the trip of the Czech delegation showed the willingeness of this coutnry for expanding relations with the Islamic Republic. He added that the two countries can cooperate with each other in various industrial fields especially machine manufacturing. Also, he said, Czechoslovakia can cooperate with the Islamic Republic on the export of technology.

The Czech minister said that his country intended to increase its oil purchase and its non-oil imports from Iran.

He said that his country planned to participate in Tehran's international fair more actively this year.

He also expressed hope that the mutual visits and trips of authorities of the two countries would help in enhancing greater cooperations in various fields beneficial to both nations.

CSSR's Urban Meets Khamene'i

LD241746 Tehran IRNA in English 1725 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] Tehran, Aug 24, IRNA — The Czech foreign trade minister, Bohumil Urban, who is currently here heading an economic and trade delegation, conveyed the greetings of his country's president to president 'Ali Khamene'i of the Islamic Republic, Thursday. President Khamene'i in reply thanked the minister for the warm greetings of the Czech president.

In a meeting with the Czech minister President Khamene'i said that the government and nation of Iran stand beside those countries which exhibit mutual respect for the interests of one another. He said that the Islamic Revolution of Iran struck decisive blows upon U.S. interests in this country and undoubtedly this move was to the interest of all countries and nations which were struggling against U.S. domination.

The Czech minister expressed satisfaction on the outcome of his meetings with Iranian officials and commended the considerable progress made by the Islamic Republic since his last visit to Iran two years ago.

At the end of the meeting, Mr Bohmuil Urban presented Khamene'i a volume of the Holy Koran which was published in Czechoslovakia.

The president, in turn, thanked him for the precious gift and termed it as a sign of deep respect of the Czech Government for the Islamic values of Iran and portended a promising future of continued friendly relations between the two countries. During the meeting, the two sides stressed expansion of bilateral cooperation. In another development, the Czech minister met and conferred with Iranian minister of heavy industries, Behzad Nabavi, Thursday.

The varied grounds for further cooperation between the two countries were explored, the most notable being machine manufacturing industries and making of technical equipment. The Iranian minister also said that the Islamic Republic was considering Czechoslovakia's proposals on the sale of industrial machinery, noting too the volume of industrial exchanges could possibly be increased. He also invited Czech officials to submit proposals on the Islamic Republic plans to expand the Tabriz machine manufacturing factory.

At the end of the discussions, Mr Bohumil Urban invited the Iranian minister of heavy industries to visit his country.

The Czech minister and his accompanying delegation arrived here last Monday.

Reportage on Visit by FRG Parliamentary Delegation

26 August Arrival

LD261120 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] A West German Parliamentary delegation arrived in Tehran this morning and was welcomed by Mr Shahcheraghi, a Majlis deputy. During its stay in Tehran, this delegation will meet some Majlis deputies and some responsible officials of the country.

Reception by Chief Justice

LD271242 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Three members of the FRG Bundestag who have come to our country today met with Mr Musavi-Ardabili, chief justice of the Supreme Court. In the course of this meeting, at which Justice Minister Mr Hasan Habibi was also present, one of the Bundestag deputies said: We respect your revolution and the path you have chosen; we have reminded other Western countries that the Islamic Republic of Iran is an independent country and should be recognized again. During this trip, we hope to become more acquainted with your revolution and to achieve the necessary objectives in various issues.

Referring to the historical past of Iran and the Islamic Revolution, Mr Musavi-Ardabili said: Our Islamic Revolution has its own principles, values, and particular regulations. We are eager to have friendly relations with all countries of the world, bearing in mind the differences among us in systems and principles. At the time we would like you to become more familiar with our new situation and to understand it in depth. We welcome the sincere move that we feel is taking place in the FRG in order to become more familiar with us and have closer cooperation. We expect our guests to become closely acquainted with the Islamic Republic of Iran and not to be influenced by the extensive propaganda being waged in the world against our Islamic Revolution.

The chief justice of the Supreme Court added: We have revived principles which had deep respect for human rights 14 centuries ago; and today we are sorry to see that we are accused of violating human rights. Despite all our attempts to revive the principles of human rights in this revolution, our only weakness is a lack of power to wage extensive propaganda in the world in order to bring the cry of our justice to the ears of the world. And you are aware that the source of propaganda in foreign countries is the counter-revolution and its Western cronies who jointly hatch conspiracy and tell lies against us.

The chief justice of the Supreme Court went on: On the basis of human rights we expect the world to condemn Saddam Husayn who attacked our country; or at least we expect the world not to support him. We have the right to ask: Why are we questioned about imprisoned terrorists, while the West puts their counterparts in chains? And Saddam Husayn not only is not condemned for using chemical weapons but also receives support. In the course of this meeting, the Bundestag deputies announced that their country condemns Iraqi use of chemical weapons and, in addition, believes that Iraq began the aggression against Iran and has not been successful in this aggression. They added: In connection with the rights of minorities, we receive some reports from the Islamic Republic of Iran which worry Western society. We are not talking about the terrorists, but whether in fact a person will be prosecuted in Iran for his beliefs.

The chief justice of the Supreme Court said: I am grateful for your condemnation of Iraq's aggression and the use of chemical weapons by that regime. But our plea to the world is this: The aggressor should not only be condemned, but it should also not receive any support. Now Saddam Husayn has announced that instead of limited use, he is going to make extensive use of chemical weapons against Iran.

Concerning equal rights for minorities in the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mr Musavi-Ardabili said: All Iranians are equal before the law and there is no difference between Muslims and Christians, Jews, and the rest as far as the law is concerned. Anyone who commits an offence will be prosecuted irrespective of his religious and political beliefs. He will be prosecuted for his offence, not for his belief. In addition to that, the Islamic Republic of Iran gives the minorities the right to have their own deputies in the Islamic Consultative Assembly in order to defend their rights. These deputies enjoy the equal rights as other deputies, and their votes count.

According to the same report, in reply to questions from the Bundestag deputies, Justice Minister Habibi said: In your papers you read that after dusk it is not possible to go into streets in Tehran or you read that there are long queues in streets for obtaining basic consumer goods and foodstuffs. You might also read other news which is part of the propaganda waged against us by agents of world arrogance. Have you come across such things during the past few days of your stay in Tehran? Where on earth have you seen such a great revolution able to write its constitution within a year and have various elections? Do you not think that the method of obtaining the Majlis vote of confidence by the Cabinet is better and more fundamental than even the method used by the Bundestag from the German Government?

Meeting With Majlis' 'Azizi

LD272056 Tehran IRNA in English 1826 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 27, IRNA — The visiting West German Parliamentary delegation Sunday met and conferred with the chairman of the Majlis Foreign Affairs Committee, Ahmad 'Azizi.

In the meeting, 'Azizi explained Iran's foreign policy as well as its stance towards developments in the region and the war imposed by Iraq.

The West German delegation arrived here Sunday for an official visit.

Gendarmerie Commander Reports on Fajr Operations

LD241736 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Excerpts] A Central News Unit correspondent reports from Sanandaj that the commander of the Gendarmerie, Colonel Kuchekzadeh, accompanied by the imam's representative in the Gendarmerie, Hojjat ol-Eslam Ashtiani, as well as the head of religious-ideological department of the Gendarmerie, returned to Tehran after inspecting bases and meeting with the combatants stationed along Kordestan.

The commander of the Gendarmerie as well as the imam's representative took part in an interview with our correspondent in Sanandaj before their departure for Tehran.

Col Kuchekzadeh said: The Fajr operations are wiping out the minigroups in Kordestan once and for all. Commenting on operations carried out by the Gendarmerie in Kordestan, he added: So far not only on the southern and western fronts, but also in fighting the infidel Ba'thists, the Gendarmerie has been protecting the remotest parts of our homeland and the fruits of the Islamic Revolution, while coordinating its operations with overall government measures. The same thing applies to Kordestan, for here the Gendarmerie has fulfilled its mission in restoring security along the main and secondary axes.

Saudi Authorities Detain Iranian Pilgrims

LD271748 Tehran IRNA in English 1653 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] Mecca, Aug 27, IRNA — A number of young Iranian pilgrims who had arrived in Arabia for performing the hajj were detained and interrogated by Saudi security agents.

The young pilgrims were first extensively questioned upon their arrival at the Jidda airport, where they were photographed and their pictures given to the security forces.

An IRNA reporter who was also detained said Saudi agents questions the Iranian pilgrims for an hour. Informed sources said that the Saudi security agents reprint the pictures for distribution among the Saudi police.

It is not known if the photos are given to other organisations.

Kuwait Expels 42 'Tortured' Iranian Workers
GF271736 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] In continuation of its acts of animosity towards the Islamic Revolution in Iran, the Government of Kuwait expelled another 42 Iranian workers from that country in the course of the past few days. According to a report by the Central News Unit, the deportees arrived at the ports of Bushehr and Ganaveh via the the Persian Gulf and have since been transfered to the special camp for deportees. It should be noted that these individuals were tortured and mistreated in Kuwaiti prisons during periods ranging between 1 to 40 days and that their belongings were confiscated by Kuwaiti police upon deportation.

IRNA: Afghan Leaders in Peshawar Join Forces
LD280930 Tehran IRNA in English 0550 GMT 28 Aug 84

[Text] Islamabad, Aug. 28, IRNA — Leaders of the two Muslim Afghan parties in Peshawar reached a unity to campaign against invading Soviet forces in their country.

Gulbuddin Hikmatyar, the leader of the Islamic Party, and Burhaniddin Rabbani, the leader of the Jam'iat Eslami mujahidin party of Afghanistan in a joint press conference, announced that the combatants of the two parties would join together in guerrilla operations against the Soviet forces until the establishment of an Islamic government in Afghanistan.

Gulbuddin Hikmatyar denied participation of the Afghan Muslim mujahidin in the explosion of a Soviet airline office in Karachi. He added that however, Muslim mujahidin will revenge the Soviet Union and retaliate for the explosion in Islamic party office in Peshawar.

IRNA: Afghan Mujahidin Launch Attacks Against Soviets
LD280931 Tehran IRNA in English 0855 GMT 28 Aug 84

[Text] New Delhi, Aug. 28, IRNA — In the past three months Muslim Afghan mujahidin downed 12 planes of the joint state and Soviet forces in Paktia state.

The Afghan Muslim mujahidin announced here that Karmal's regime again summoned those who concluded their military services three years ago to return for duty.

Mujahidin forces also attacked the joint Soviet and state command Hq in Farah state, resulting in the demise of 8 military personnel of Kabul regime.

In retaliation to the mujahidin's successful attack, the Soviet forces bombed four villages, martyring and wounding a number of local inhabitants.

Communique in Paris on Repayment of French Loan
LD241943 Tehran IRNA in English 1835 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] Paris, Aug. 24, IRNA — In a communique published here Thursday the Iranian Embassy said that Iran's Foreign Ministry looked forward to a positve actioa by the French Government for paying back her outstanding loan to Iran as a first step for improving relations between the two countries.

The communique was published shortly after a meeting here between the new charge d'affaires of the Iranian Embassy 'Ali Reza Moayeri and the French minister for External Relations Claude Cheysson, in which the Iranian envoy presented his credential to the French minister.

In 1974 and 1975 and during the shah's rule, France received about one billion dollars in loan from Iran. The loan has remained France's debt to the Islamic Government.

The French minister has said that Iran's request would be heeded by the French government.